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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**TO:** Thanhha A. Pham

**FROM:** Jason M. Okun

**RE:** U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/766,816  
Filed: January 30, 2004  
Atty. Dock.: 03599.000093

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03599.000093

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

NOBUMASA SUZUKI

Application No.: 10/766,816

Filed: January 30, 2004

For: PROCESSING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD

Examiner: T. Pham

Group Art Unit: 2813

February 11, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 11, 2005, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS


The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-18, drawn to a processing apparatus, classified in class 118, subclass 722; and

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile-transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306, on

February 11, 2005  
(Date of Transmission)

Jason M. Okun  
(Name of Attorney for Applicants)

 February 11, 2005  
Signature Date of Signature